

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before line 1, inserting the following:

This is a divisional of Application No. 09/758,163 filed January 12, 2001, which is a continuation of Application No. 09/240,591 filed February 1, 1999, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/794,017 filed February 3, 1997 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,894,317), which is a continuation of Application No. 08/393,920 filed February 24, 1995 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,910,809), which is a continuation of Application No. 08/136,049 filed October 14, 1993 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,444,471), which is a continuation of Application No. 07/657,910 filed February 20, 1991 (now abandoned), the entire disclosures of all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Pages 10-11, bridging paragraph:

Thus, there is formed an arrangement of the piezoelectric vibrators 30 (corresponding to the piezoelectric plate 12 and 12' in Figure 1), the respective one-end portions of which are fixed to the base 2, and the other free end portions of which are separated by slits 29 produced by the above-mentioned cutting process. The steps shown in Figures 3e and 3f are also applied to the opposite surface of the base 2, whereupon a vibrator unit as shown in Figure 4 is formed.

Page 11, second full paragraph:

If an electric signal of about 30 V is applied between the conductive members, the piezoelectric vibrators 29, to which the signal is selectively applied through their proper conductive members, expand in their axial directions and vibrate in a plane direction of the base

plate, which is the direction that the nozzle apertures 10 and 10' eject ink, as a result of application of the actuating voltage to the respective piezoelectric material layers.

Pages 13-14, bridging paragraph:

If the application of the signal is stopped, the piezoelectric vibrators 12 contract to their initial states to make the vibration plate [[33]] 32 return to its initial position, so that the ink reservoir is expanded to the volume at the time of application of no signal. Consequently, the ink in the recess portions 32b to 32e flows into the recess portions 33e and 33f constituting ink reservoirs, thereby preparing for the next ink drop generation. According to this embodiment, no spacer member is necessary, and it is possible to simplify the assembling process.

Pages 27-28, bridging paragraph:

Figures 27a to 27c illustrate another embodiment of the inventive method of forming a piezoelectric element array, in which spacers 242 and 244 are fixed to the opposite ends of a base plate 240, and a bonding agent 246 having low viscosity and high elasticity at the time of solidification flows into a grooved portion formed by the spacers 242 and 244 (Figure 27a). A piezoelectric element plate 248 the same as the mentioned above is fixed to the spacers [[2242]] 242 and 244 with a conductive bonding agent and to the base plate 240 with a bonding agent 246 (Figure 27b). When the bonding agent has solidified, two slits 250 and 252 separated from each other and extending to the outer surface of the base plate 240 are formed. Next, slits 254 parallel in the oblique direction are formed at predetermined intervals so that the two ends of the

piezoelectric element plates separated by the slits 250 and 252 are displaced by one-half pitch (Figure 27c).